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10/030999  
HJ

Prel Amndt  
2/B

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Holger KLAPPROTH ) Atty. Docket: STURK 0002  
Serial No. 10/030,999 )  
Filed: January 16, 2002 )  
LINKER SYSTEM FOR ACTIVATING )  
SURFACES FOR BIOCONJUGATION ) Date: February 19, 2002  
(As Amended) )

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (B)

**BOX: Non-Fee Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend claims 1, 15-17, 18 and 19 by replacing them as follows:

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1. (Amended) Linker system for activating surfaces for bioconjugation having the following general formula (I):

X-[(Y<sub>1</sub>)<sub>i</sub>-Q-(Y<sub>2</sub>)<sub>j</sub>]<sub>k</sub>-Z (I)

wherein:

X is a reactive group capable of covalently binding to a surface,

Z is a reactive group capable of covalently binding to a biomolecule,